



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 2890  
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NHCP-1AD

January 31, 2003

**NATIONAL HANDBOOK OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES**  
**450 – VI**  
**NOTICE 130**

**Purpose.** This notice transmits new or revised conservation practice standards for insertion into the National Handbook of Conservation Practices (NHCP). In addition, notes are included for clarification.

**Effective Date.** This notice is effective when received.

**Explanation.**

New or revised Standards:

**Animal Trails and Walkways (575)** – This revised practice standard provides additional guidance in its use. Clarification in the use of associated practices Heavy Use Protection and Access Road is included in the criteria and considerations.

**Channel Bank Vegetation (322)** – The name was changed from Channel Vegetation. This is a complete re-write of this standard to include criteria for each purpose and to conform to existing policy.

**Clearing and Snagging (326)** – This conservation practice standard has been updated to current format. Cultural resources, fish and wildlife habitat and groundwater considerations have been added.

**Dike (356)** – This practice standard has been completely rewritten in a new format that allows effective use of a new one-page table of all the critical criteria for class I, class II and class III dikes. Protection of drainage facilities as a purpose has been dropped, but new emphasis has been added for the purposes of “control of water levels” and use where personal safety and property protection are a concern. Consideration was given to requests for a new class of dike that allowed design for overtopping. This was not approved.

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DIST: NHCP

**Residue Management, Ridge Till (329C)** – Sections on Stable Outlets and Maximum Row Grade were added to the General Criteria Applicable to All Purposes. Reference to the soil loss tolerance value in the Additional Criteria to Reduce Sheet and Rill Erosion and in the Additional Criteria to Reduce Wind Erosion was removed. Other changes in this standard were primarily editorial.

**Residue Management, Seasonal (344)** – The definition was expanded to include biannual and annually planted crops. Standard allows management of residue by grazing and mechanical removal as well as residue burial by tillage. Criteria were added for reduction of offsite transport of sediment, nutrients and pesticides.

**Row Arrangement (557)** – This conservation practice standard has been updated to current format. The definition has been changed to more fully describe the practice.

### **Instructions.**

Replace the Contents pages i through v in the NHCP with the attached revised Contents pages dated October 2002.

Insert the new or revised standards in the NHCP in alphabetical order as designated on the revised Contents pages.

Remove and archive, as appropriate, the practice standards for Animal Trails and Walkways (557) dated April 1995; Channel Vegetation (322) dated October 1977; Clearing and Snagging (326) dated October 1980; Dike (356) dated October 1980; Residue Management, Ridge Till (329C) dated June 1994; Residue Management, Seasonal (344) dated June 1994; and Row Arrangement (557) dated October 1977.

Copies of this notice and the attachments are being sent to all State offices (or equivalent), Regional Offices, Centers, and Institutes. Additional copies may be obtained by ordering NHCP-1AD from the GSA National Forms and Publications Center, 7CPN, Warehouse 4, Dock 1, 501 West Felix Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76115, using GSA Form 49.

This notice and each of the conservation practice standards included with this notice can be accessed electronically. Access can be through either the NRCS homepage on the World Wide Web at [http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/practice\\_std.html](http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/practice_std.html) or from the FTP server in Fort Worth, Texas.

**Federal Register Notices.**

The National Conservation Practice Standards Subcommittee (NCPSS) published notice of intent to revise or adopt these standards in the *Federal Register*. Comments were accepted for 30 days. Guidance to the States for complying with the provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill that require advertising for public comment prior to revising NRCS State technical guides can be found in 450 – GM, Section 401.19.



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Attachments